

# Regional Conservation Partnership Program

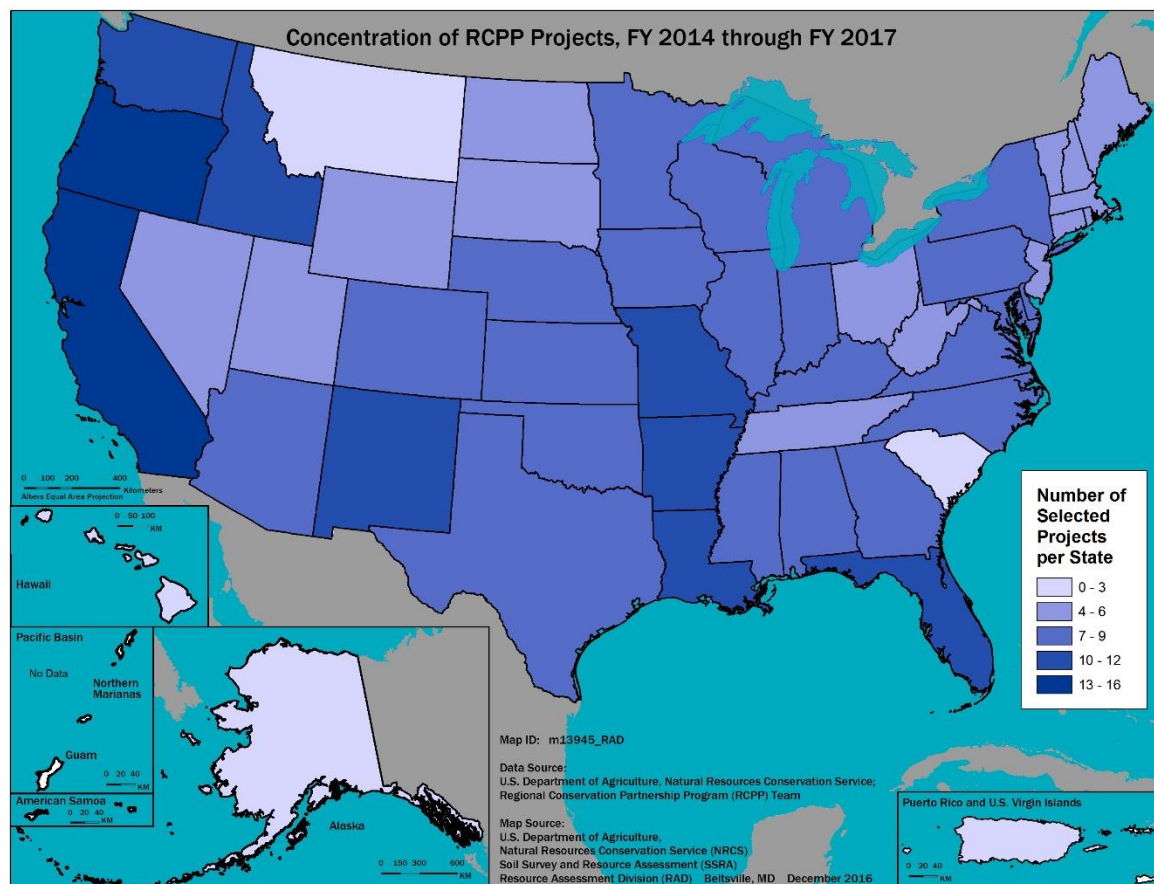
Investing in Maine



## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

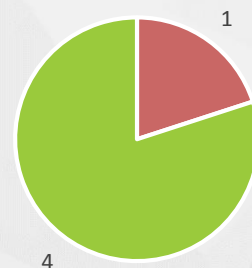
Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is a partner-driven, locally-led approach to conservation. It offers new opportunities for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to harness innovation, welcome new partners to the conservation mission, and demonstrates the value and efficacy of voluntary, private lands conservation.

In 2017, NRCS is investing up to \$225 million in 88 projects that impact nearly every state in the nation, including one in Maine. Since 2014, NRCS has invested more than \$825 million in 286 high-impact projects, bringing together more than 2,000 conservation partners who have invested an additional \$1.4 billion. By 2018, NRCS and partners will have invested at least \$2.4 billion. These projects are leading to cleaner and more abundant water, better soil and air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, more resilient and productive agricultural lands and stronger rural economies.



### Maine Projects to Date

#### Projects by Resource Concern



5

Projects

**\$16.6  
million**

NRCS Investment

53

Partners

## Existing RCPP Projects

Year	Title	Funding Pool	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	NRCS Investment
2016	Maine Mountain Collaboration for Fish and Wildlife	National	The Trust for Public Land	7	\$4.6 million
2016	The Young Forest Initiative for At-Risk Species	National	Wildlife Management Institute	12	\$5.2 million
2014/2015	Improving Connectivity for Coldwater Salmonids in Maine Headwater Streams	State	Atlantic Salmon Federation	6	\$200,000
2014/2015	Protecting Potato Fields: Public-Private Partnerships to Improve Soil Health and Water Quality, Aroostook County	State	Maine Potato Board	9	\$600,000

## 2017 RCPP Projects

### Maine Aquatic Connectivity Restoration Project

Proposed NRCS Investment: \$6,000,000 (National)

Lead Partner: The Nature Conservancy - Maine

Number of Initial Partners: 19

Participating States: Maine (Lead State)

The 25,000-square-mile Maine Aquatic Connectivity Restoration Project will restore some of the state's highest-value aquatic networks from habitat fragmentation and degradation caused by road-stream crossings. Led by the Nature Conservancy and 18 other partners, the project will use with Stream Smart design and installation to improve habitat and aquatic organism passage and reduces the impacts of increasingly volatile storm flows.

